# ST. NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1968





# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

#### FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SAINT NEOTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1968

To: The Chairman and Members of the St. Neots Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

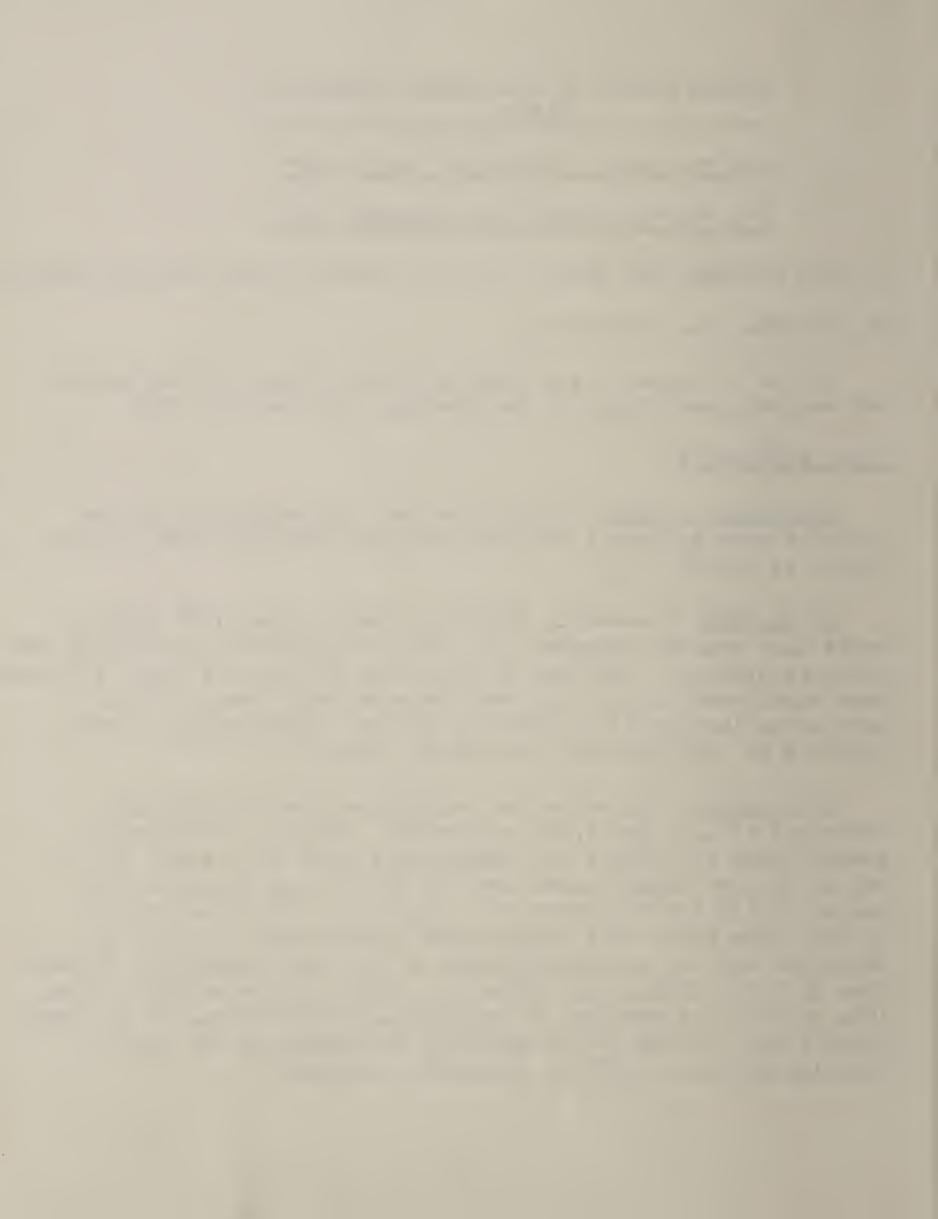
I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District for the year 1968.

#### Vital Statistics.

<u>Population 13.000</u>. During the year the population of the District rose by over a thousand bringing the estimated mid-year figure to 13,000.

Birth Rate. A somewhat downward trend in the birth rate is noted this year as compared with 1967, bringing the rate below the national average. This may be explained by the fact that (1) there were nine fewer births this year compared with last, (2) the population increased by 1,100 and (3) the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General was reduced.

Death Rate. The corrected Death Rate remains virtually unchanged at 12.5 per 1,000 population. This is fractionally greater than the figure for England and Wales as a whole (11.9) and is to some extent accounted for by the high comparability factor (1.41) for the District. This factor which is applied to the crude Birth Rate taking into consideration the way in which the sex and age distribution of the land population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole and in addition takes into account the presence of residential institutions in the area. Exactly half of the deaths were due to disease of the cardiovascular system and 20% of malignant neoplasms.



## ANNUAL REPORT (Cont'd)

Infant Mortality. Three infants died during the year before reaching the age of 12 months - two from congenital abnormalities and one from pneumonia. The Infant Mortality Rate is, therefore, 12.2 per 1,000 live births - a figure which is less than that for 1967 (15.7) and compares well with the National average (18.0).

Infectious Diseases. There were no outbreaks of notifiable diseases during the year and although 148 notifications were received all but six were childhood infections relating to Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Measles.

#### Social Conditions.

Main Drainage. Contract 12 extensions for the Sewage Treatment Works were completed with the works becoming fully operational.

As part of the Main Drainage programme for Eaton Socon, a contract will shortly be let for the relief sewer. This will be followed by further works to serve the planned expansion of the area.

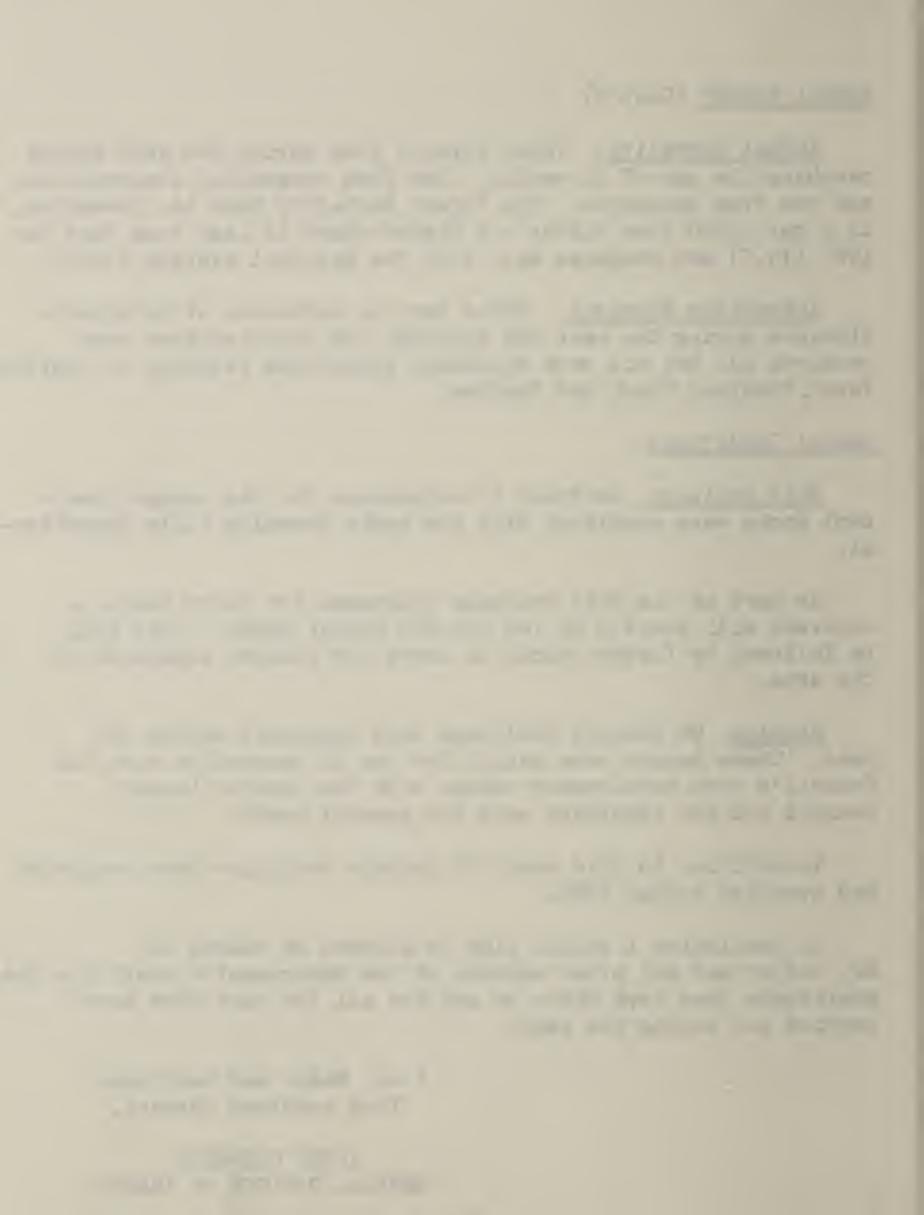
Housing. 98 Council dwellings were completed during the year. These houses were mainly for use in connection with the Council's town development scheme with the Greater London Council and the remainder were for general needs.

In addition to this some 127 private dwellings were completed and occupied during 1968.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Ostler and all other members of the Department's staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have carried out during the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

JAMES CALDWELL
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



# ANNUAL REPORT (Cont'd)

#### STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

J. Caldwell, L.R.C.P. & S. (ED)., L.R.F.P. & S. (GL) D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

R.A. Ostler. M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Meat Inspector Assistant (Authorised)

D.R. Hill (Cert. of Meat Inspection, R.S.H.)

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

# Total Area: 2,722 acres

St.Neots	996 acre	S
Eynesbury	395 acre	S
Eaton Socon	1.331 acre	S

# Estimated Population:

Mid - 1967	11,900
Mid - 1968	13,000

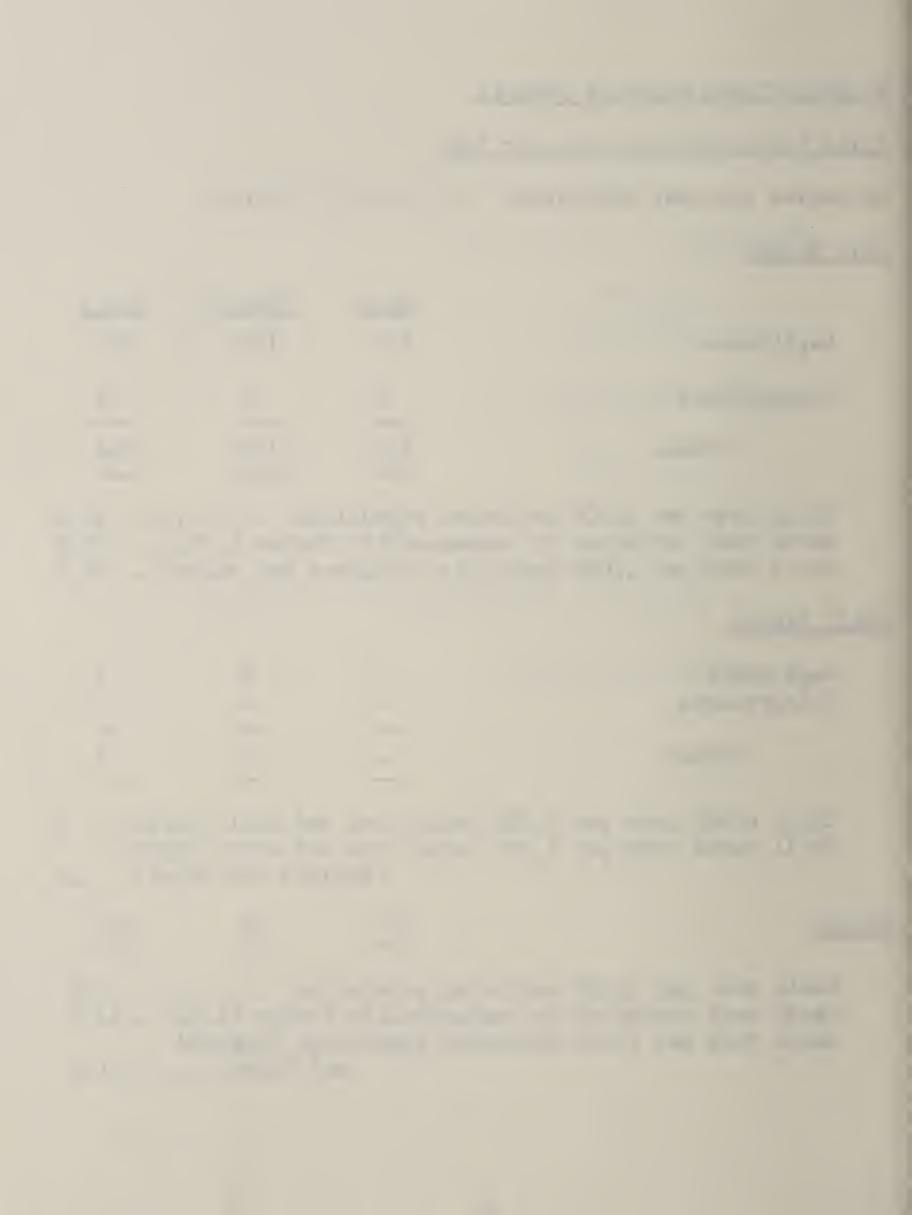
# Rateable Value:

As at 30th	September, 1968	£508,020
Product of	a Penny Rate	£2,070

# No. of inhabited houses: 4,148

## Vital Statistics for the year 1968 Estimated mid-year population 13.000 Live Births Male Female Total 117 232 Legitimate 115 Illegitimate 14 121 246 Totals 125 18.9 Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.79) .. 14.9 Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) .. 16.9 Still Births Legitimate Illegitimate Totals Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. 8 Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England and Wales) ...14 Deaths 57 59 116 Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ....... 8.9 Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.41) ...12.5 Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales) .....11.9

St. Neots Urban District Council.



# Vital Statistics for the year 1968 (Cont'd)

# Infant Mortality - Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Male	r'emale	Total
Legitimate	3	600	3
Illegitimate	_	_	
Totals	3	6000 6000	3
Infant Mortality rate (	Deaths of Infants	under l	vear per

# Table classifying deaths under age groups

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	2	400	2
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	cor	1
1 year and under 5 years	400	-	***
5 and under 15 years	1	****	1
15 and under 25 years	_	1	1
25 and under 35 years	-	(SME)	_
35 and under 45 years	3	3	6
45 and under 55 years	2	3	5
55 and under 65 years	10	9	19
65 and under 75 years	18	17	35
75 years and over	20	26	46
	- Ampleton		
Totals	57	59	116
	-	PERSONAL PROPERTY AND PROPERTY	

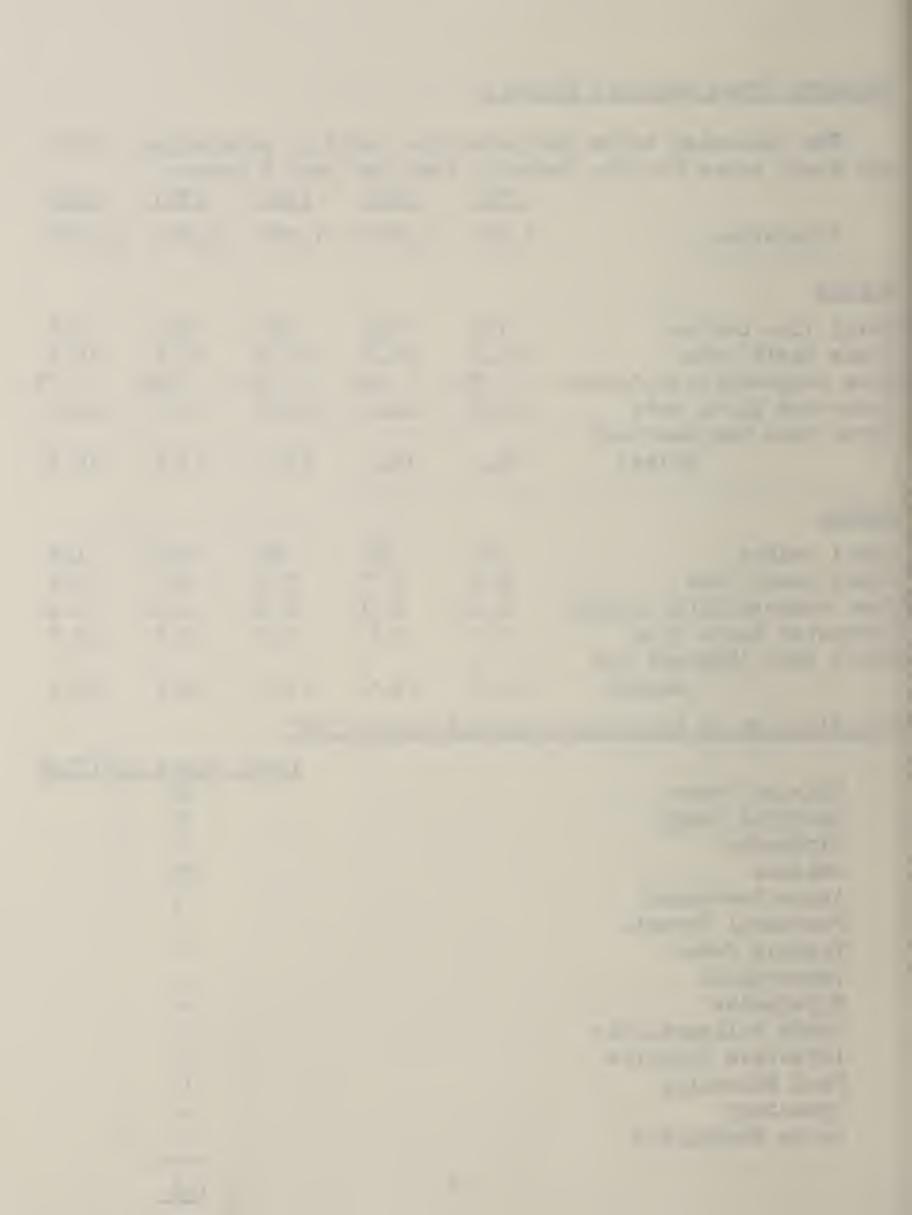


The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the District over the past 5 years:-

and death rates for the Di	istrict 1964		*	years:- 1967	<u> 1968</u>
Population	7,150	9,900	11,080	11,900	13,000
Births					
Total live births Crude birth rate Area comparability factor Corrected birth rate Birth rate (England and Wales)	174 24.3 .85 20.7 18.4	.89	.89 20.3	.82	.79
Deaths					
Total Deaths Crude death rate Area comparability factor Corrected death rate Death rate (England and	59 8.3 1.18 9.7	1.10	· ·	1.42	1.41
Wales)	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9

# Notification of Infectious Disease during 1967

		Total cases notified
Scarlet Fever		45
Whooping Cough		38
Diptheria		-
Measles		59
Acute Pneumonia		2
Puerperal Pyrexia	•	_
Typhoid Fever		-
Paratyphoid		-
Erysipelas		-
Acute Poliomyelitis		-
Infective Jaundice		-
Food Poisoning		1
Dysentery		-
Acute Meningitis		1
	7.	<u>146</u>



# Causes of Deaths

# (Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes	Male	Female			
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1			
B19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	ī			
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	5	ace			
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm - Breast		3			
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	ero	2			
B19(6)	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	5	5			
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	1				
B46(2)	Other diseases of blood, etc.	1	¢an-			
B46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system etc.	1	2			
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	Cast	1			
B27	Hypertensive Disease	-	1			
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	17	12			
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	4	1			
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	6	13			
	Other diseases of circulatory system	1	2			
B31	Influenza	1	1			
B32	Pneumonia	5	2			
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	1			
B33(2)	Asthma	(CMH)	1			
B46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system	1	1			
B38	Nephritis and nephrosis	4018	1			
B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	100	3			
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2	<b>630</b>			
B45	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions - 1					
BE47	Motor Vehicle accidents - 2					
BE48	All other accidents	2	1			
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	7	Ţ			
BE50	All other external causes	<u>T</u>				
	Total all causes	57	59			



#### TUBERCULOSIS

Total	number	on	Registe	r at	31st	December,	1968	• • • •	36
	Pulmona	ry	• • • •	33		Non-Pulmon	ary	3	

New cases - diagnosed					New	cases ·	- transfer	<u>'S</u>
Age Period	Respira M		Non-resp	iratory F	Respir M	ratory F	Non-resp M	iratory F
0	-	•	-	-	-	-	625	•
5	<b>a</b> ca	8000	-	-	-	-	<b>****</b>	9890
10	-	••	-	-	-	-	9407	<b>SCOR</b>
15	***	_	-	-	-	-	Comp	1
25	<b>6</b> 00	1	-	-	Comm	-	***	
35	em-	1	-	-	_	-	-	400
45		<b>4653</b>	-	-		•	estes.	-
55	<b>480</b>	-	-	-		****		•••
65 and upwards			-	400	<b>an</b>	<b>an</b>	-	
Totals	-	2	-	-	***	***		1

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:-

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge (Tel: Cambridge 55526)

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.) Tenison Road, Cambridge (Tel: Cambridge 2097)

(b) Ambulance Service.

Ambulance administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders. (Tele:Huntingdon 3348)

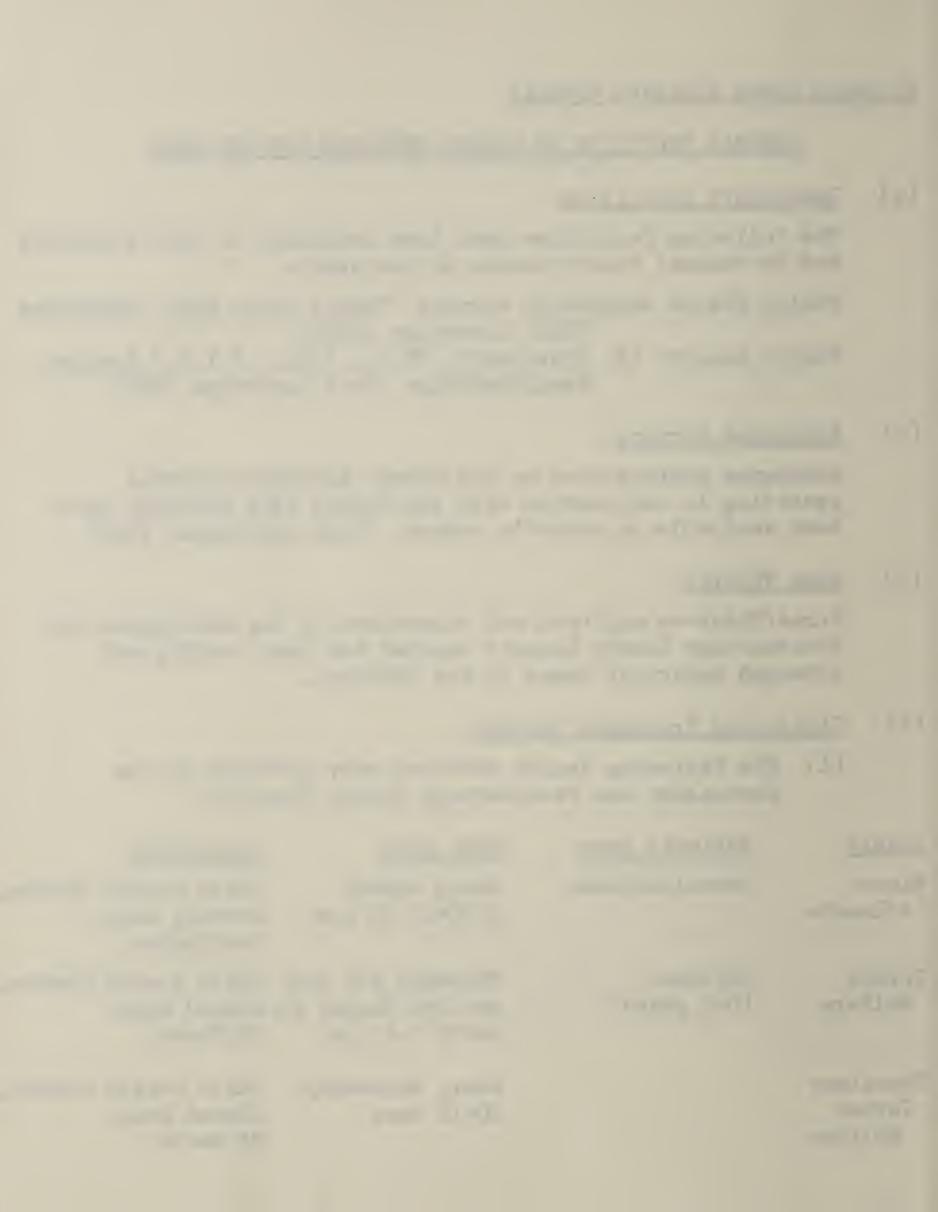
(c) Home Nursing.

Nurse/Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases in the District.

(d) Clinic and Treatment Centres.

(i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council:-

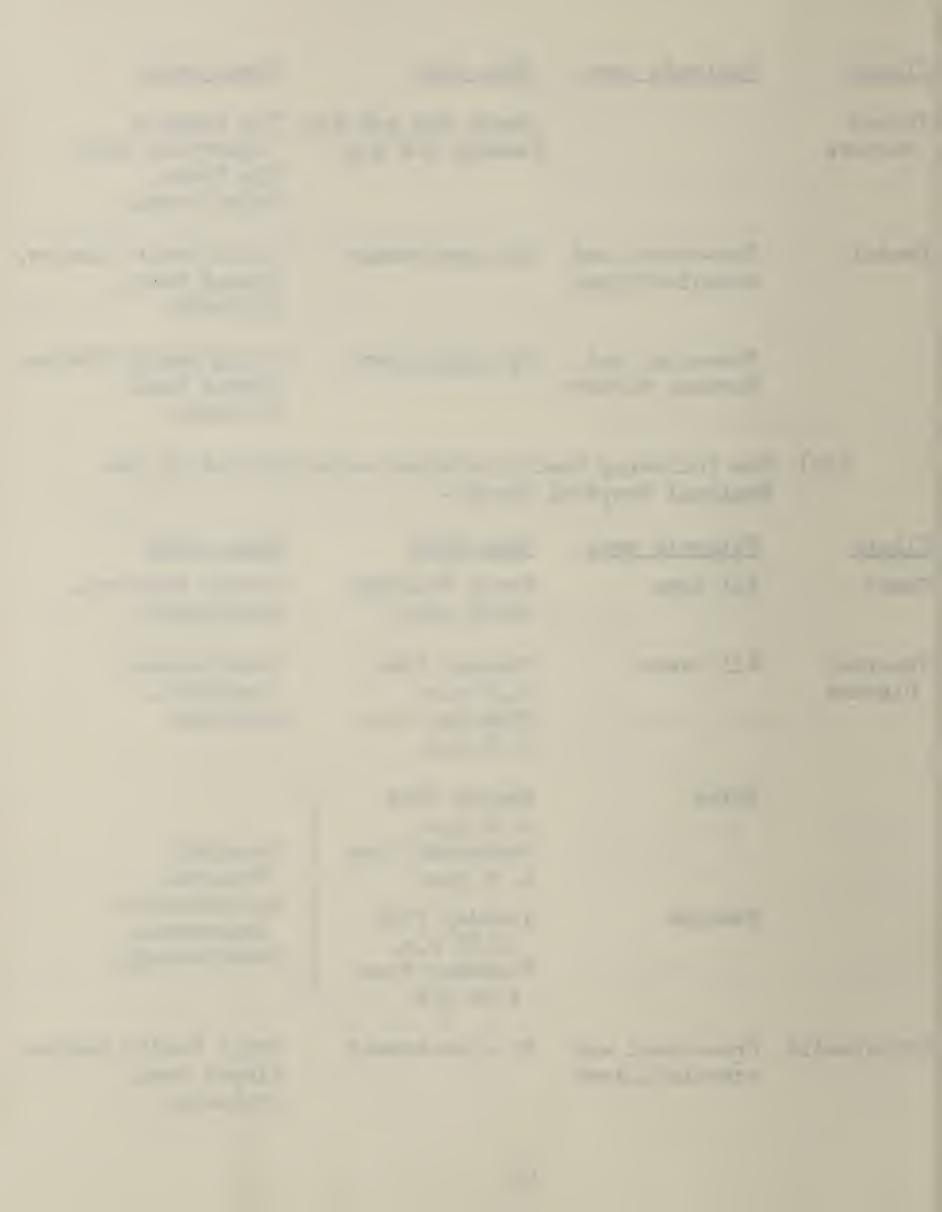
Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30-10.30 a.m.	Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 years)	Thursday 2-4 p.m. and 2nd Monday in month 2-4 p.m.	Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St.Neots.
Eynesbury Infant Welfare		Every Wednesday 10-12 noon	Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St.Neots.



Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Infant Welfare		Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday 2-4 p.m.	The Women's Institute Hall, The Green, Eaton Socon.
	Pre-school and schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St.Neots
	Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St.Neots

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held		
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday 10-12 noon	County Hospital, Huntingdon.		
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2.30 p.m. Thursday from 2.30 p.m.	Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge		
	Males	Monday from ) 4.30 p.m. ) Wednesday from ) 5.30 p.m. )	Memorial Hospital, Out-patients		
	Females	Tuesday from { 10.30 a.m. } Thursday from 4.30 p.m.	Department, Peterborough.		
Orthopaedic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St.Neots.		



(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

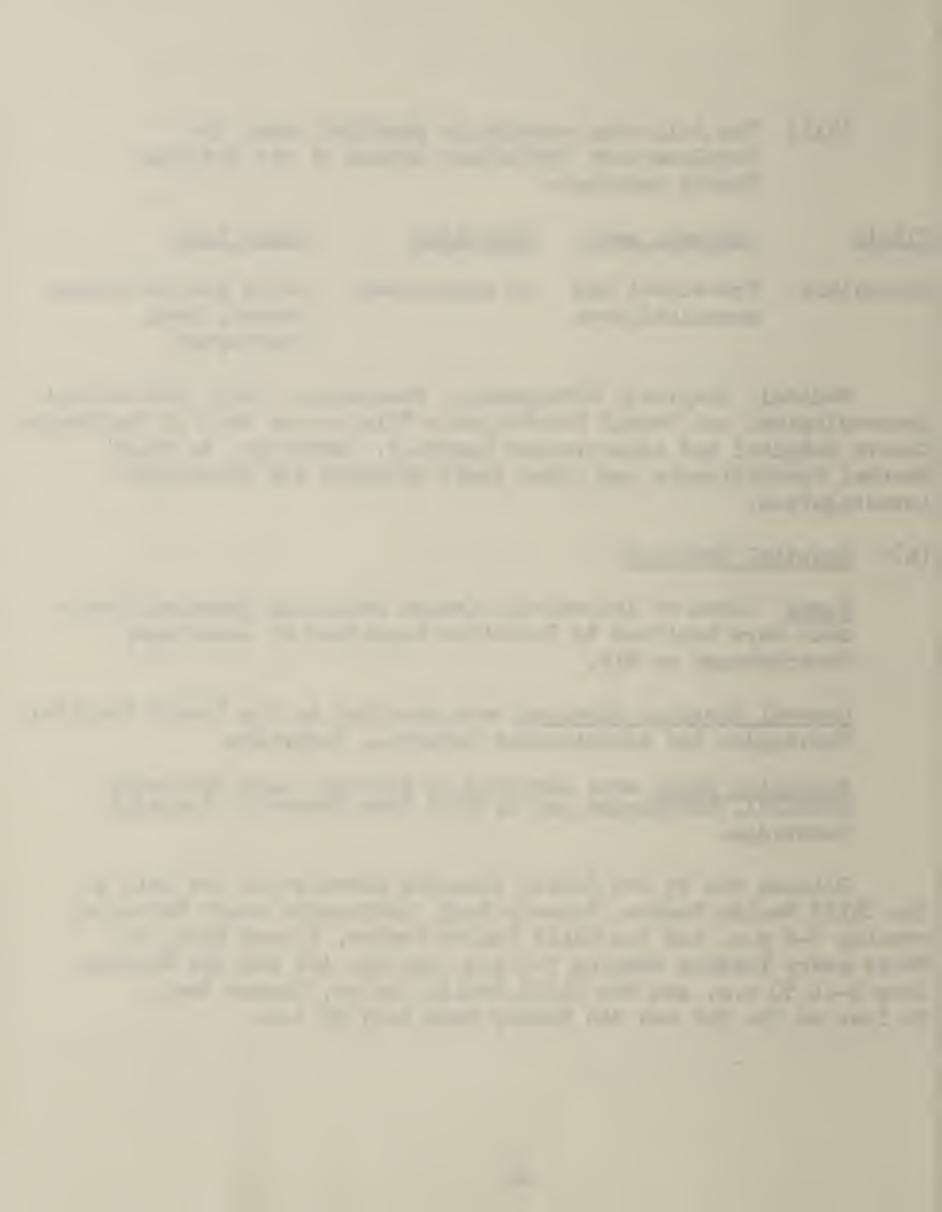
# (e) Hospital Services.

Fever Cases of Infectious Disease requiring Hospital Treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and to Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.

Clinics run by the Family Planning Association are held at the Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon every Wednesday evening 7-8 p.m. and the Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots every Tuesday evening 7-8 p.m. and the 1st and 3rd Thursday from 9-11.30 a.m. and the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives on the 2nd and 4th Monday from 9-11.30 a.m.



## To the Chairman and Members of the St. Neots Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to include my report for the year 1968.

Although I have only occasional and supervisory duties in connection with meat inspection, which is performed very capably by our authorised inspector, in all other spheres the continued expansion of the town brings difficulties to what is otherwise a one-man department.

The bed-rock of Public Health work is that of systematic inspection, supervision and research, and an adequate routine of this kind is impossible to sustain in face of an increasing number of emergency calls and other necessary distractions. I personally hope that a restoration of an over-riding concern for environmental health in all Council activities will be an important effect of implementing the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Government.

The opening early this year of the Council's first caravan site, with features much superior to the basic model standards, is a valuable achievement. Also established was the first unattended self-service petrol station in the area, believed to be one of several proposed.

I would like to express my appreciation of the support received from the various members of the Council and of the advise and co-operation afforded by other officers.

R.A. OSTLER

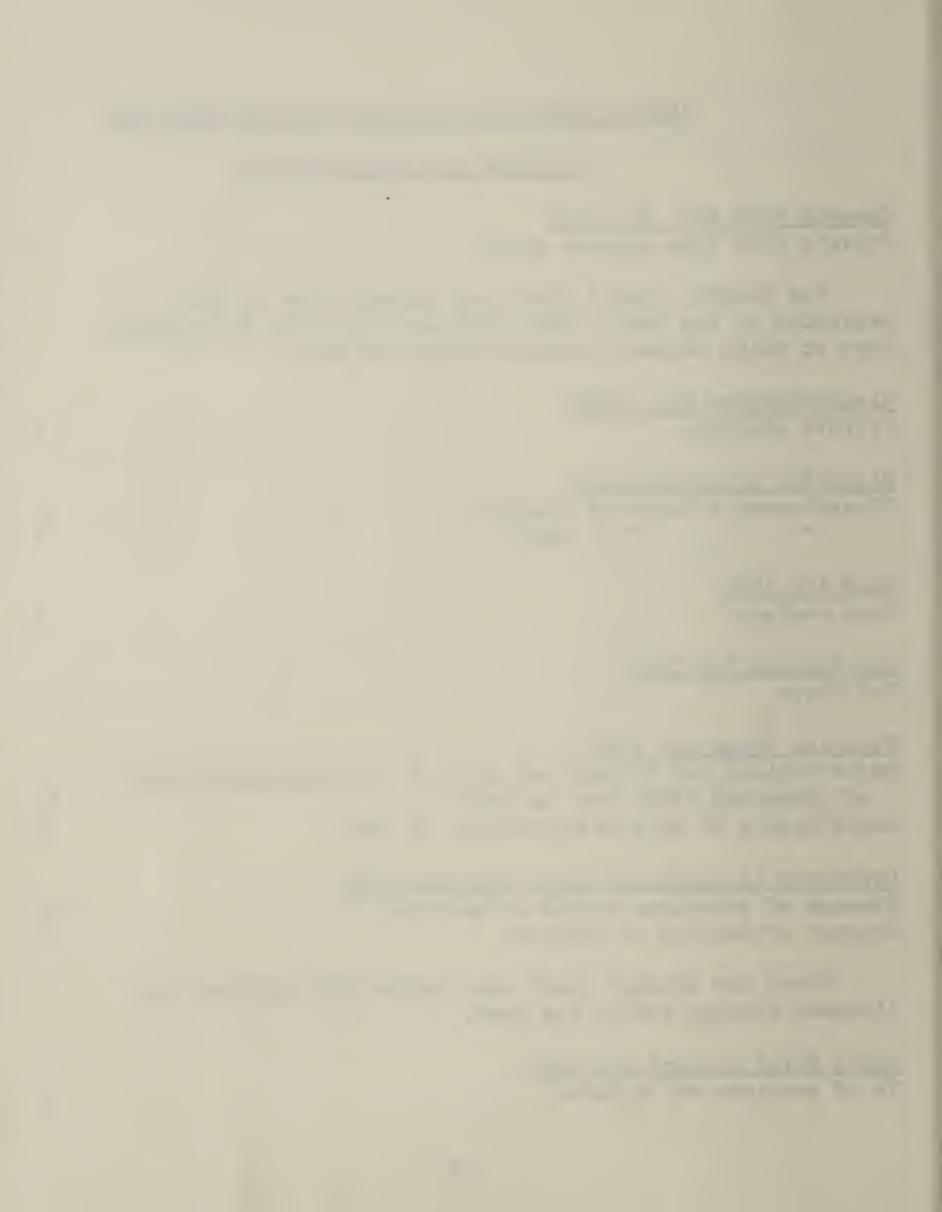
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

# LICENCES AND REGISTRATIONS

Caravan Site etc. Act 1960 Private Site (one caravan only)	1
The Council opened their own caravan site at the beginning of the year. This contains sites for 50 caravans, most of which became occupied during the year.	
Slaughterhouse Act, 1958. Private abattoir	1
Slaughter of Animals Act. Slaughterman's licences (renewal) " (new)	6 1
Game Act 1931 Game Dealers	4
Pet Animals Act 1951. Pet Shops	2
Food and Drugs Act 1955. Registrations for storage and sale of icecream, manufacture of preserved foods etc. to date	41
Registration of milk distributors, to date	5
Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936 Storage of petroleum spirit or mixtures Storage of carbide of calcium	37 1
Three new storage tanks were tested and approved for licensed storage during the year.	
Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964. No of premises on register	4



#### INFORMAL FOOD - SAMPLES

The following samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory in Cambridge.

			ea	
STATE OF THE PARTY.	-	-	-	 4 54
	 _	 _		

Grade	I	(Satisfactory)	-	17
Grade	II	(Satisfactory)	CEO	4
Grade	III	(Unsatisfactory)	CHR	1
Grade	IV	(Unsatisfactory)	(CE)	Nil

The only unsatisfactory sample was from a hotel kitchen, where handling techniques were improved; a repeat sample being satisfactory.

#### Milk

18 samples of pasteurised milk were taken from four dealers in the town, and all were satisfactory.

#### Water

A total of 47 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, as follows:

#### Mains

From Bedfordshire supply - 8 (all satisfactory)
From Nene and Ouse Supply - 19 (all satisfactory)

In each and every case no organisms at all were reported on plate count.

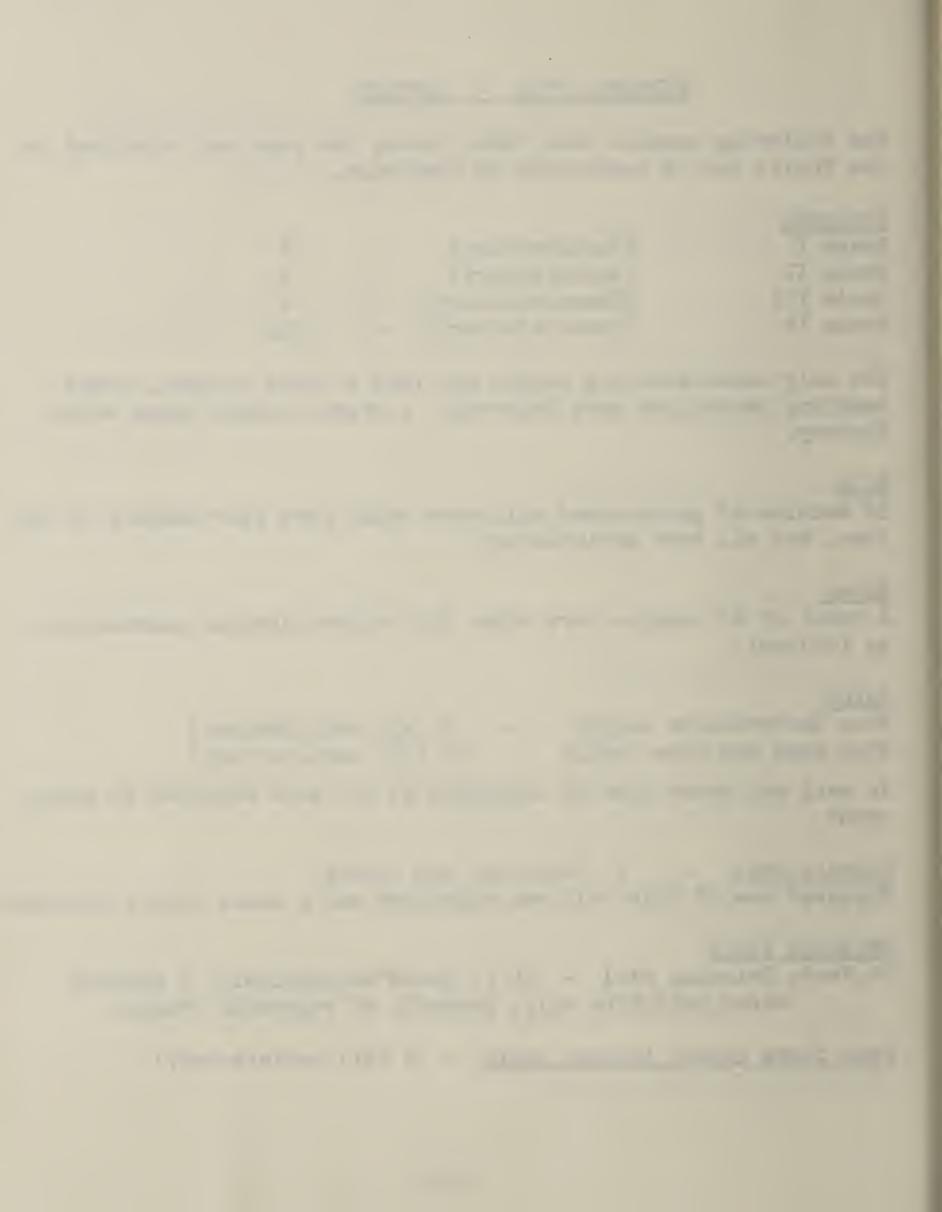
Private Well - 1 (Polluted and unsafe)

Proposed use of this well was abandoned and a mains supply provided.

#### Swimming Pools

St. Neots Swimming Pool - 10 (7 quite satisfactory, 3 showing minor pollution only, probably of vegetable origin.

From three school learner pools - 9 (all satisfactory)



#### MEAT INSPECTION

At the only abattoir in the district, one hundred per cent inspection was maintained by a full-time inspector, who was in attendance during almost the entire period of slaughtering hours.

Fortunately, although the times and rates of slaughter vary most unpredictably, they are confined to reasonable hours, and it was not found necessary to evoke the power to fix times of slaughtering under the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations 1966.

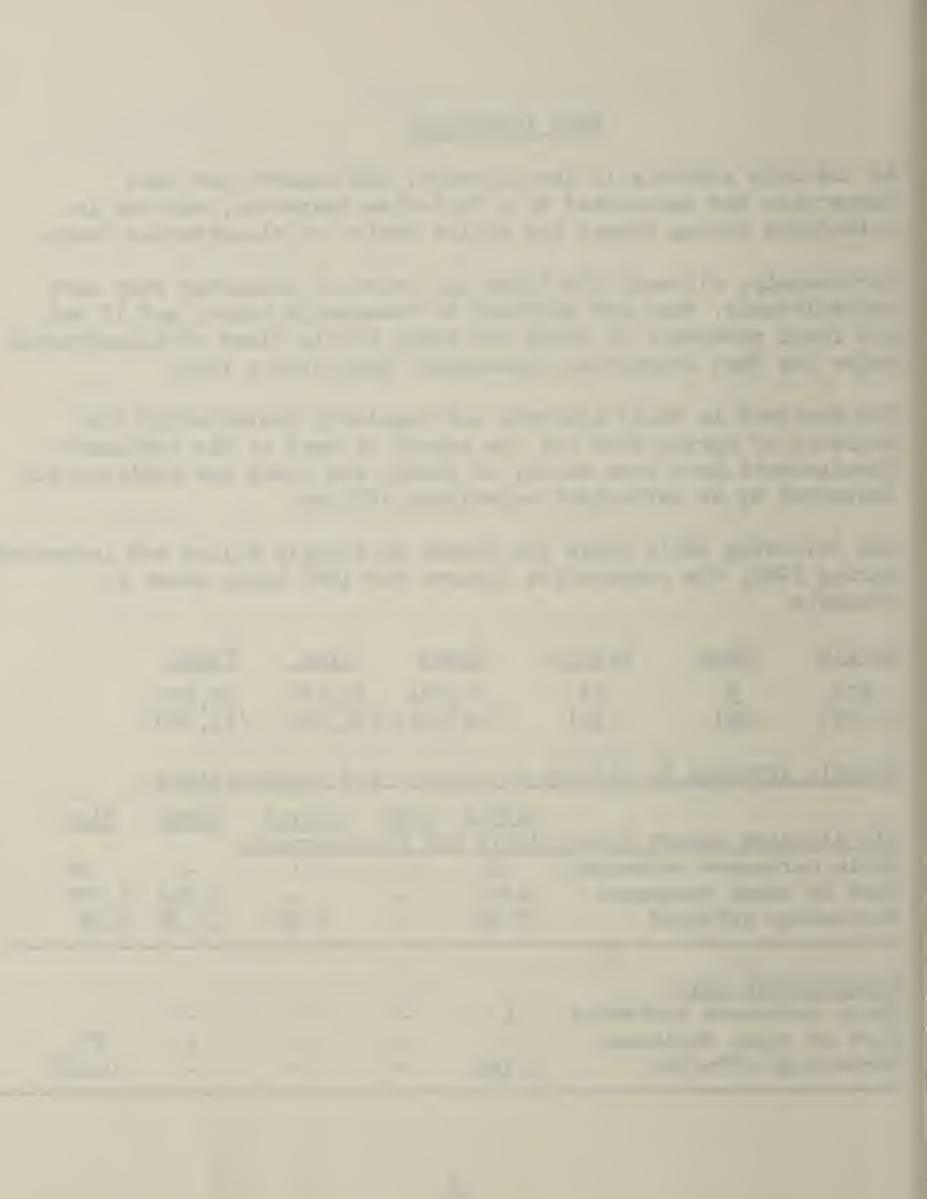
The abattoir is fully approved and regularly inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture for the export of meat to the continent. Consignments have been mainly of sheep, and these are additionally inspected by an authorised veterinary officer.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during 1968, the comparative figures for 1967 being shown in brackets.

Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
677	3	37	22,704	30,178	53,599
(1,179)	(8)	(28)	(24,519)	(25,885)	(51,720)

Animals affected by disease or injury, and condemnations.

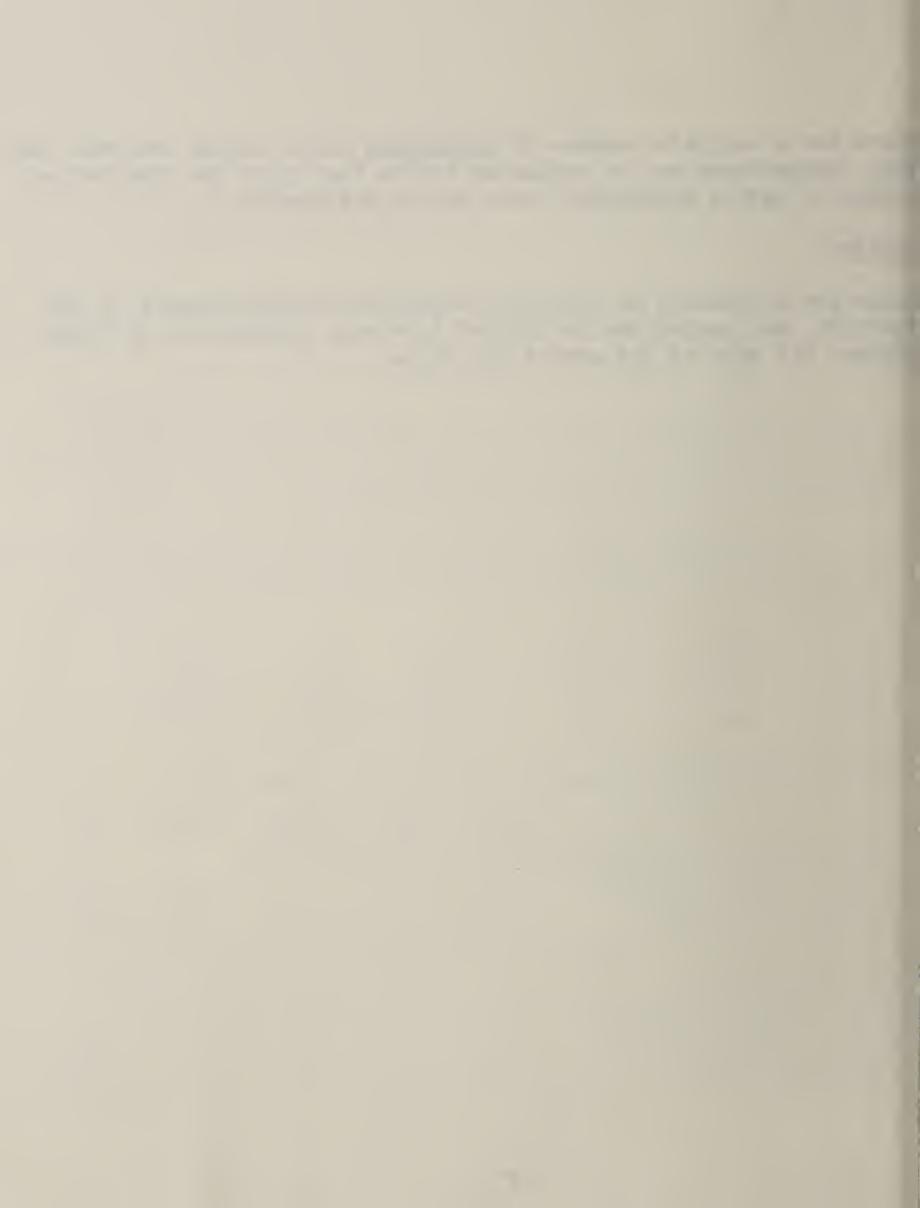
All diseases except Tubero	COMPONICH CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF	Cows and Cyst	<u>Calves</u>	Sheep	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned Part or organ condemned Percentage affected	2 185 27.6%	Casp Casp	1 2.7%	<b>~</b>	88 1,782 6.2%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned Part or organ condemned Percentage affected	1 0.15%	ස න ස	<b>(</b> 23)	- 1006 - 1209 - 1308	- 37 0.12%



There was a complete absence of <u>cysticerci</u> found during the year, and this circumstance may be explained by the fact that the diminishing number of cattle slaughtered were mainly barley-fed.

#### Poultry

There are at present no poultry-slaughtering establishments in the district, and inspection is limited to visual examination of those exposed for sale at the market and shops.

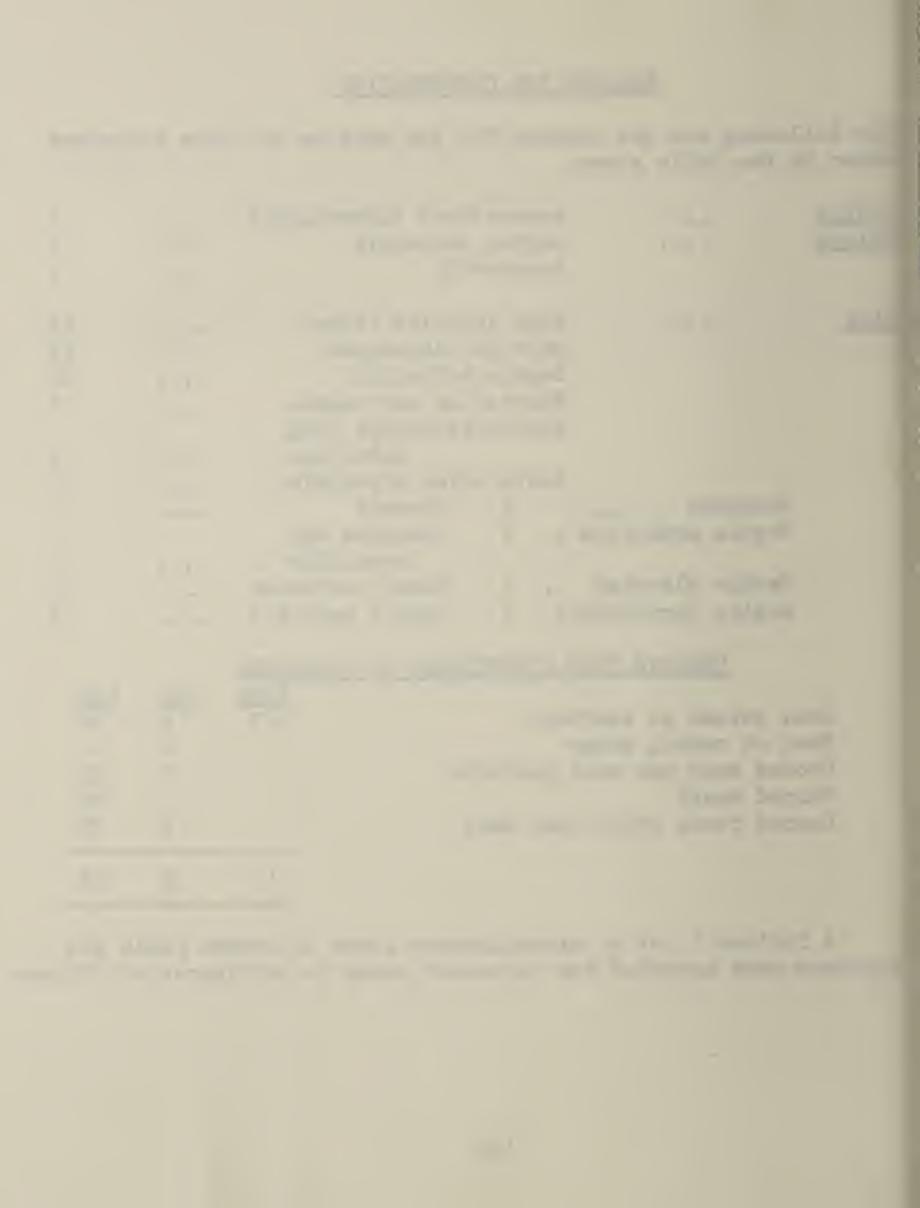


## REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

The following are the reasons for the seizure of whole carcasses shown in the table above:

Cattle Calves	generalised tuberculos septic pneumonia immaturity	is	1 2 1
Gangrene Septic nephritis Septic pleurisy Septic peritonit	hepatitis l Bowel occlusi		47 13 10 4 3 2 1
Meat seized at abat Meat at retail shop Cooked meat and mea Canned meats Canned foods other	toir s t products	NED   Cwt   12   4   2   1   6	Lbs 99 10 90 78
		12 15	53

A further 5 cwt of miscellaneous items of frozen foods and icecream were accepted for surrender owing to refrigeration failure.

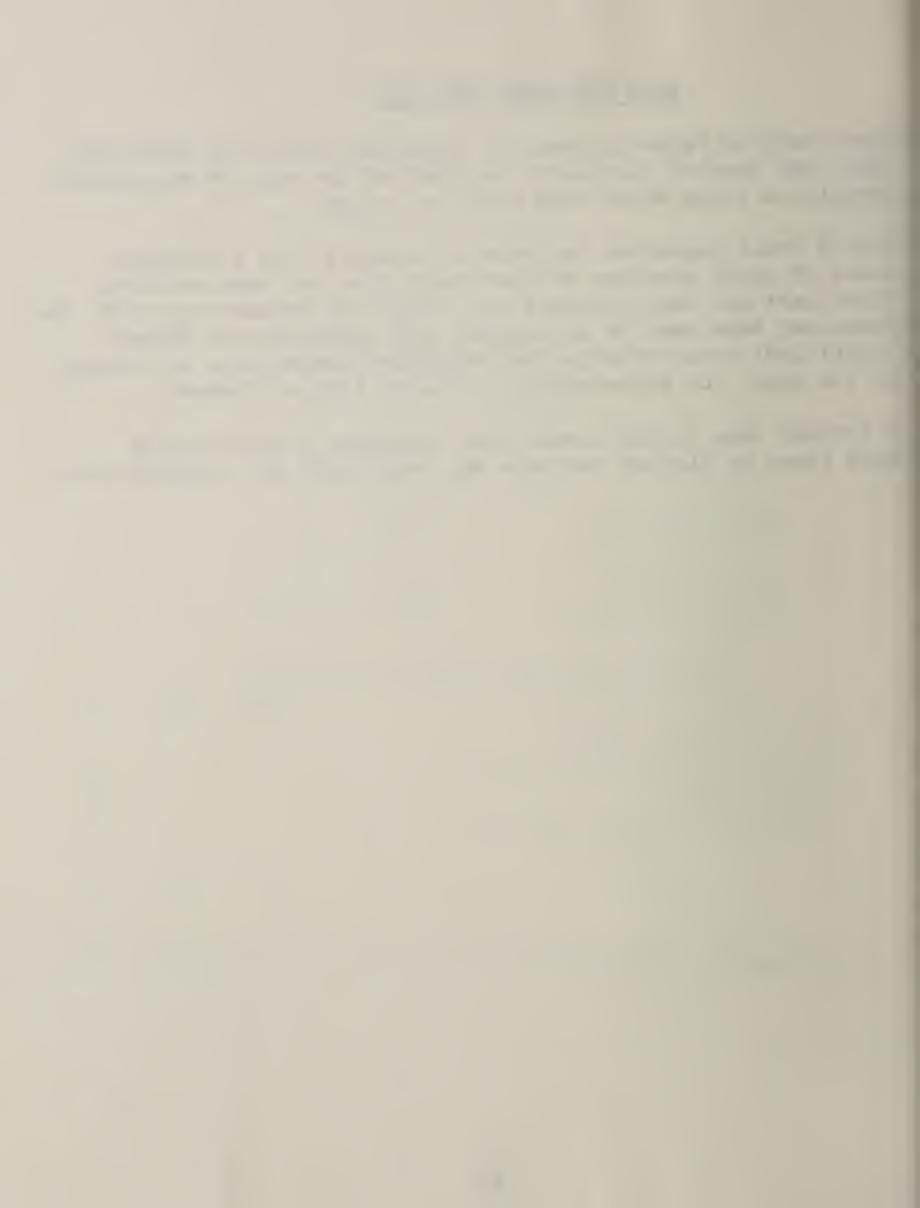


### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

There were no reported cases of extraneous matter in food this year, but several complaints occurred of the sale of pre-packed perishable items which were stale or mouldy.

One of those concerned the sale of sausages from a multiple store of which previous similar complaints had been received. After part had been consumed by a child who became very sick, the remainder were seen to be unsound, and investigation showed inefficient stock rotation and excessive temperature of storage at the shop. On prosecution, a fine of £25 was imposed.

A further case in which meat pies exceeding a month in age were found on display for sale was dealt with by a warning only.



# FOOD PREMISES IN DISTRICT

Sweets and Confectionery	6
General Stores	31
Fishmongers	2
Dairies	2
Butchers	11
Bakers	3
Bread and Cake shops	3
Hotels	8
Cafes and restaurants	9
Fish Friers	2
Mobile fish friers' premises	1
Licensed premises	34
Greengrocers	6
Pie manufacturers	2
Maltsters	1
Flour Mill	1
Works and School canteens	15

## FACTORIES ACT 1961

	No on register	No of Inspections	Deficiency found
Factories with mech	anical		
power	73	5	(CRID
Workplaces	5	<b>63</b>	1000
	Magazin	Principal Control Cont	
	78	5	
	Онкомпо	name ( ) and ( ) and ( )	

## OUTWORKERS

The reported number of outworkers employed within the district is as follows:-

Assembly and painting of plastic toys Leather work and glove manufacture	51 11
	62

No instances were found of work in unwholesome premises.



# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

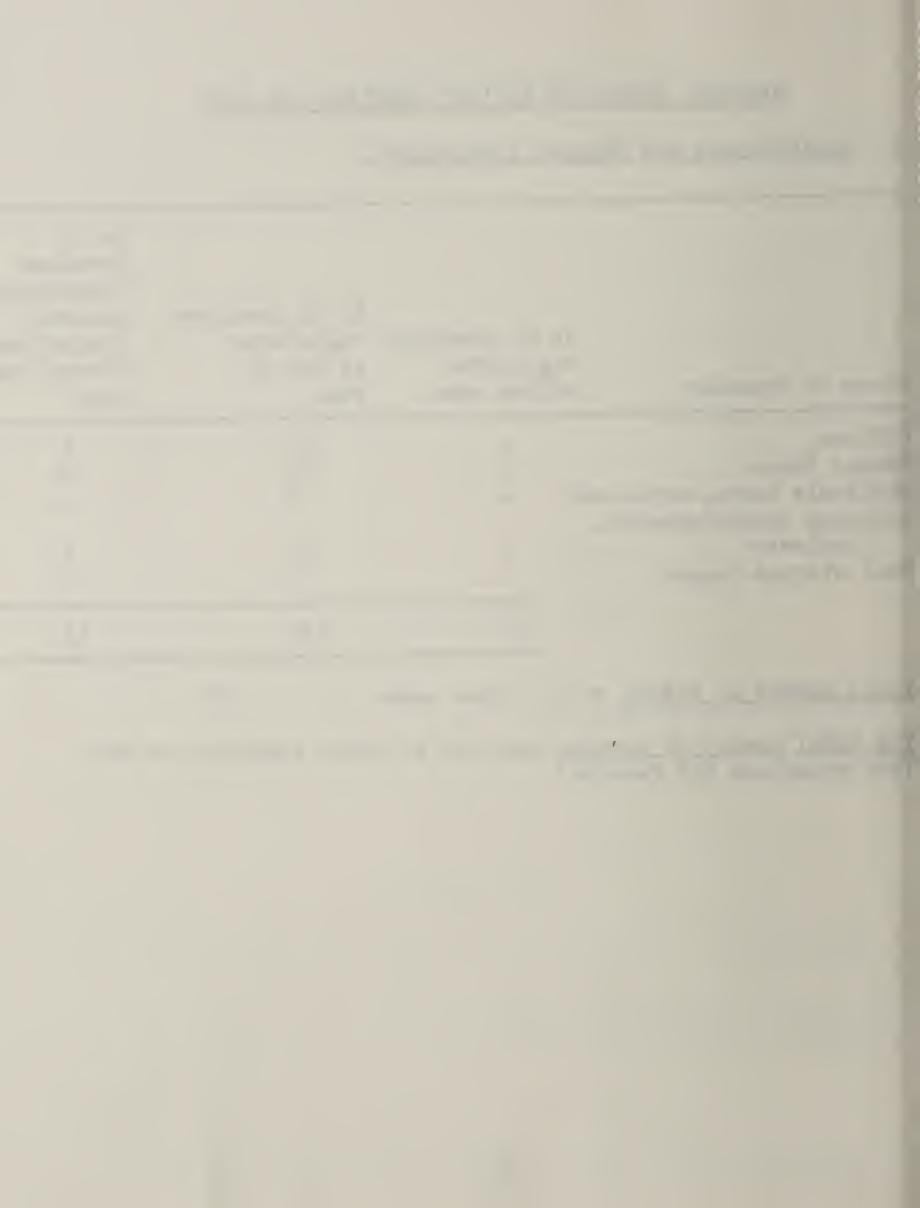
# A. Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	No of premises registered during year	No of premises registered at end of year	No of premises receiving general inspection during the year
Offices	4	37	1
Retail Shops	6	78	9
Wholesale shops, warehouse	es =	5	<b>6</b> 2
Catering establishments,			
canteens	600	14	1
Fuel storage depots	<b>600</b> )	1	6
	10	135	11

Total number of visits of all kinds made

40

The total number of persons employed in these premises was 829 (346 males and 483 females)



## B. Analysis of Contraventions.

Section	No of contraventions found	
6 8 9 10 16 17 24	Temperature Lighting Sanitary conveniences Washing facilities Floors, passages & stairs Fencing exposed machinery First Aid	3 2 1 1 2 1

## C. Exemptions

No new applications were received, but one existing exemption was extended in respect of the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and running water.

#### D. Prosecutions

None were instituted during the year.

## E. Accidents

Six accidents were reported during the year. None were fatal. In two cases improvements were required to reduce the chances of future accident.



# HOUSING

A.	Repai	r - Housing and Public Health Acts.			
	(1)	Sections 9. 10 and 16. Housing Act No of notices served - Informal Formal	1957		Nil 1
	(2)	Public Health Acts.  No of notices served - 11. Information Formation Format	is- NC)		10 3
		No of houses repaired after service notices -	of		9
В.	Beyon	d Repair - Housing Act 1957			
	2. U 3. C 4. D 5. H	Indertakings accepted (Section 16) Indertakings cancelled Iosing Orders made (Section 17) Iouses demolished Iosing Orders made (Section 18)			Nil 2 3 Nil
C.	Clear	ance Areas.			
		o of clearance areas confirmed of dwellings in above			One 6
D.	Impro	evement Grants (information supplied Engineer and Surveyor	oy r)		
	(1)	Standard Grants  1. No of applications approved (a) owner/occupiers (b) tenanted houses		3 7	



# D. Improvement Grants (Cont'd)

2. No of dwellings improved

(a) owner/occupier 2
(b) tenanted houses 1

3. Amount paid in grants £435

4. Amenities provided
(All, except food store in one case)

# (a) Discretionary Grants

1. No of applications approved

(a) owner/occupiers 3

(b) tenanted houses Nil

2. No of dwellings improved

(a) owner/occupier 3
(b) tenanted houses Nil

3. Amount paid in grants £812

## E. Improvement Areas - Housing Act 1964.

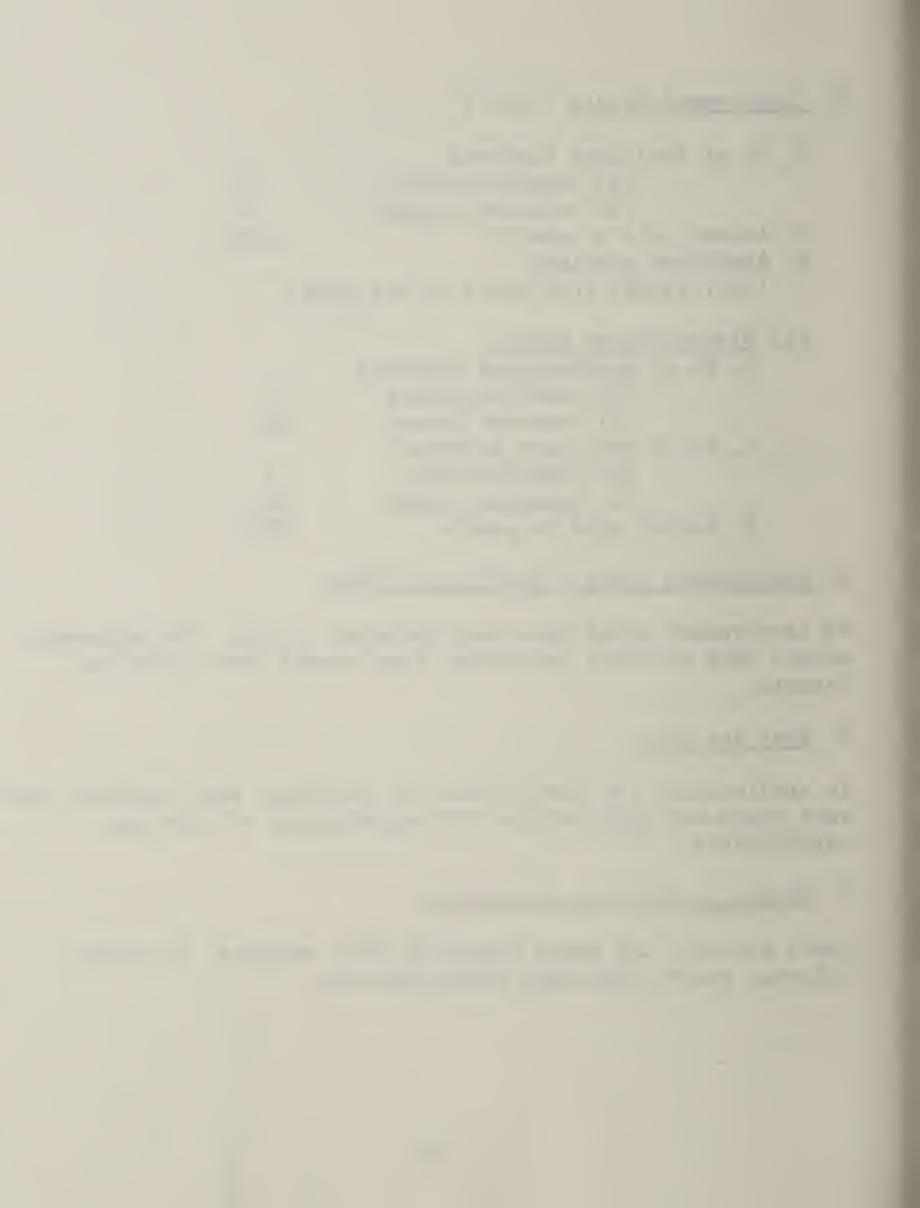
No improvement areas have been declared to date. No representations were received requesting improvement from individual tenants.

# F. Rent Act 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, nor were there any applications for cancellation of existing certificates.

## G. Houses in Multiple occupation

There are only two known houses in this category, for which informal control has been found adequate.



## RODENT CONTROL

A private firm, Messrs. South Beds. Pest Control, provide a service on contract for control of vermin and insects in domestic premises, and for baiting of sewers and Council properties. No service is now offered to business premises.

Number of properties in district	5,250	
Total No of properties inspected on complaint No infested by (a) rats (b) mice	164 112 4	
Properties inspected in connection with above  No infested by (a) rats (b) mice	170 63 Nil	io me
Sewer manholes baited No. found infested	23 Nil	
No. of insect infestations treated	18	

